Oklahoma Conservation Commission
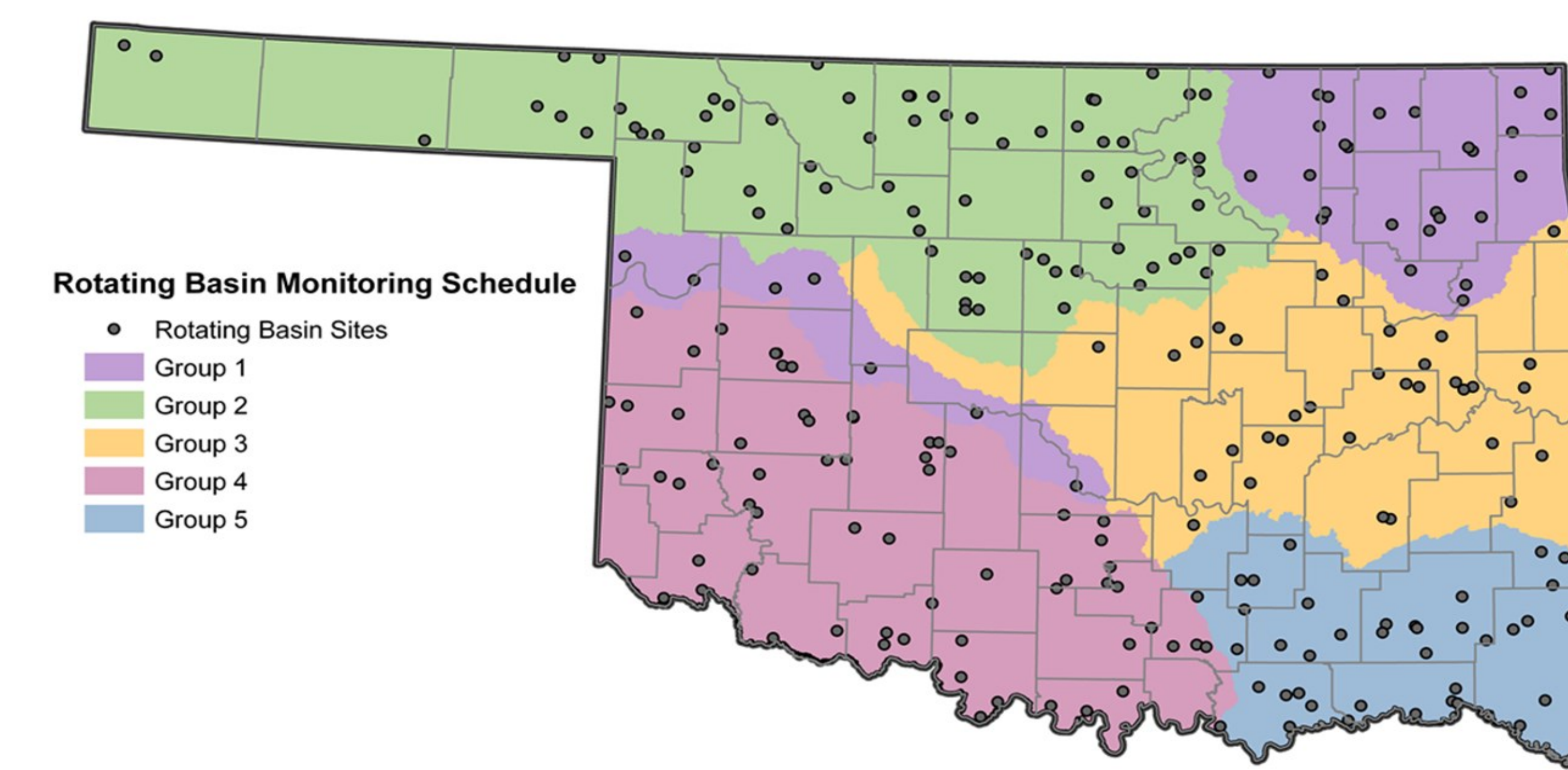# Landowner Outreach: "Know Your Stream" Handouts

Jason Ramming, Oklahoma Conservation Commission, Water Quality Division

Problem: Landowners wanted to know about the water quality of streams on their property. Monitoring staff were unable to provide this information on the spot. While the information exists in the agency database, it was not in a format that could be easily communicated to the landowners or other interested public.

Response:
- The technical writing team translated and formatted the data into an informational handout, "Know Your Stream Site Summary," for each stream, designed for the general public.
- The monitoring staff mailed a handout to each landowner whose land is accessed during the year. Each handout is unique to that landowner's stream.
- Field staff now carry handouts with them when accessing private lands and entering streams so they can provide the information upon request.
- The WQ Division provided the handouts to Conservation District offices in counties where the streams flow to make the information available to the public.

Rotating Basin Monitoring Program Sites

Rotating Basin Monitoring Schedule
- Rotating Basin Sites
- Group 1
- Group 2
- Group 3
- Group 4
- Group 5

Purpose:
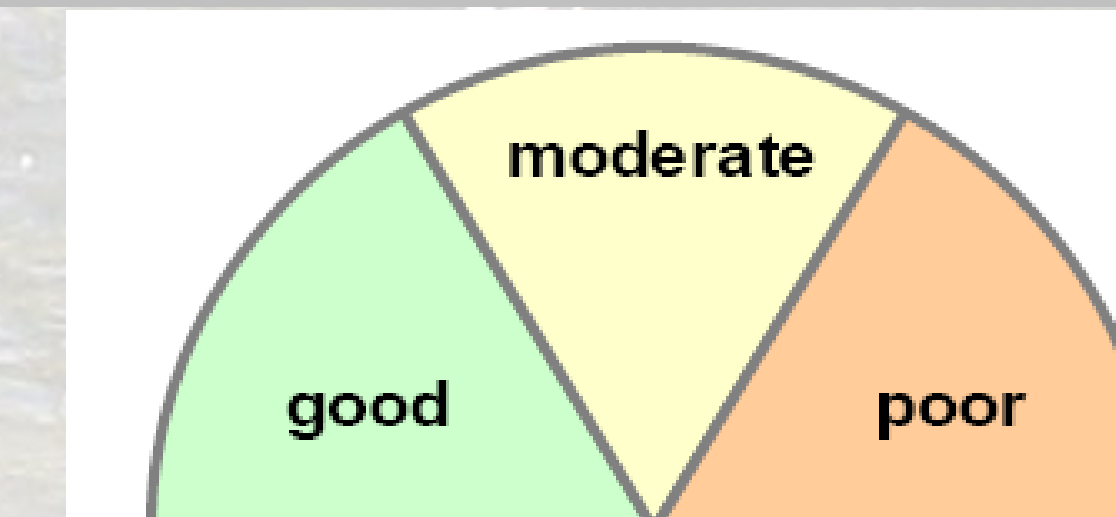- Enable monitoring staff to effectively engage with landowners while in the field by communicating information simply and concisely.
- To inform all landowners whose property abuts a monitored stream about the quality of the water running through their property.
- To increase landowner awareness about water quality issues and the role the Conservation Commission plays in protecting those waters.

Results:
- Water Quality Monitoring staff are now able to provide information when it is requested by a landowner, even though they may be standing in the middle of a stream with their hands full.
- Handouts for over 250 different streams have been created.
- The agency has increased its ability to communicate with the public.
- More landowners are aware of the quality of the stream running through their property and now know they can call the Conservation Commission for additional information.

A lot of information is summarized into a simple stream assessment.

moderate

good   poor

Oklahoma Conservation Commission field monitoring staff hard at work: